



August 21, 2015

Good morning, everyone,

Yesterday we honored a very special employee, **Police Officer Leigh Ann Hester**. Hester recently returned home from an 18-month deployment in Afghanistan. The deployment was Hester's third since 2004. Hester is a **Sergeant First Class in the Army National Guard**, and was assigned to the **269th Military Police Company**. She is a highly distinguished **Silver Star recipient**; in fact, Hester is the first woman soldier to receive the Silver Star for direct combat action. "Being a police officer is rewarding, and I can't imagine doing anything other than being a soldier and a cop; I love both," said Hester. "I'm glad to be home, and am honored to serve our Country and Franklin." A ceremony at the Police Department yesterday included lowering the **Blue Star Flag**, which honors active duty military members serving during a period of war or hostilities. The flag was flown in front of Police Headquarters.

Mayor Moore and I worked to help raise money for the **Williamson County School System** in the **#WCSFeedOurCOWs**. COWs stand for computers on wheels. One fully equipped COW includes 30 laptops and charging cables on a mobile cart which can easily be moved from one classroom to another. Visit www.wcs.edu/invest-now to learn how to feed a COW! See the promo here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHG5pRL5V4M>



Mayor Moore along with **Aldermen Brandy Blanton, Pearl Bransford and Ann Petersen** were on hand Tuesday for the ground breaking at the Reddick Street Apartments. The Franklin Housing Authority held the event with many community members attending. The next phase will be 65 public housing units on the remaining parcel of land on the old Reddick Street site.



A group of **Canadian exchange students** met with **Mayor Moore** and toured City Hall with **Monique McCullough** (today's her birthday by-the-way) earlier this week. The group was organized by **Sister Cities**. President of **Sister Cities of Franklin and Williamson County Mike Thompson** accompanied the group. For more about Sister Cities go to www.sistercitiestn.org

Several officers from the **Franklin Police Department** were honored today at the **Tennessee Governor's Highway Safety Office's Lifesaver Awards Luncheon** in Murfreesboro, honoring law enforcement agencies across the state for their work in developing and leading effective traffic safety programs in their respective communities. Our **Traffic Team**, including **Officers Roy Brown, Brad Brandon, James Grummons, Michael Adcock, Ryan Howell, Chad McCulley, and Rachel Gober**, and led by **Lieutenant David Prather**, earned **Third Place in the 101-200 Sworn Officer category for the traffic safety program here in Franklin**. The team also won the **Child Passenger Safety Award** from across all agencies in the State for their efforts in this critically important campaign to prevent child injuries and deaths related to traffic accidents. Quite an accomplishment on both counts and an outstanding testament to the hard work and dedication of these law enforcement professionals. Congratulations to all!



Welcome to the following new employees!

Pictured L-R:

Christine Dougherty, PARKS, Facilities Worker-

Christine is originally from Michigan and is retired from General Motors. She has lived in the Thompsons Station/Spring Hill for more than 20 years. She has two children (twins) who are currently in college at Belmont University and the University of Kentucky. Christine enjoys music and sports.

James Svoboda, PLANNING, Senior Planner-

James is originally from Binghamton, New York. He previously worked for the City of Gallatin for 14 years as a Community Development Coordinator. His first job was with the City of Franklin as a Long Range Planner back in 1994. James received his Bachelor's degree in Geography from The Ohio State University and his Masters from University of Cincinnati in Planning. James has two kids.

Dan Smotherman, FIRE, Firefighter-Dan lives in Spring Hill and worked as a Paramedic for Marshall County before coming to the City. Dan went to Independence High School and went to Columbia State for his EMT/Paramedic certification. Dan is married with two kids.

Ed Huggins, POLICE, School Patrol-Ed is originally from Oklahoma but has lived in Tennessee most of his life. Ed previously sold Life insurance and considers himself a workaholic. Ed enjoys going to church and spending time with his two kids, Adam 29 and Hailey, 28. He likes all kinds of sports and he is happy to be working for the City.



Our **Communications office** is beginning an **Instagram Photo Contest** beginning today. The prize will be **2 two-day passes to the Pilgrimage Music and Cultural Festival**. The winner will be chosen by the photo with the most likes on our Instagram page. Employees are eligible to enter. For a complete set of rules go to www.franklintn.gov/insta-contest! Good luck! See the video here <https://youtu.be/I6R3Nvl6ZTE>

Jared Cunningham of Planning and Sustainability was the winner of the Mayor's Parking spot last week. This week he is nominating **Susan Coleman of**

Planning! Jared said, *"She always goes the extra mile to help out all while putting a smile on your face!"* Congratulations Susan! You can park in the Mayor's spot from August 24-28.

In honor of **National Senior Citizens Day** (which is today!), the first five employees to tell me who proclaimed the first National Senior Citizens Day and what year will get a **City of Franklin Tumbler**. The person who proclaimed the day wrote that, *"Older citizens are reinforcing their historical roles as leaders and as links with our patrimony and sense of purpose as individuals and as a Nation."*

Thanks for *all* you do! Enjoy your weekend.

Excellence, Innovation, Teamwork, Integrity, Action-Oriented

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